



The Speech of Sr. Harbottle Grimston Baronet, Speaker of the Honourable House of Commons, to the KING'S most Excellent MAJESTY.
Delivered in the Banqueting-House at Whitehall, May 29. 1660.
The Members of that House being then present.



Most Gracious and Dread Sovereign,



F all the Reason and Eloquence that is dispersed in so many severall heads and tongues as are in the whole world, were conveyed into my brain, and united in my tongue, yet I should want sufficiency to discharge that great task I am now enjoyn'd.

The Restitution of Your MAJESTY to the Exercise of Your just and most indubitable Right of Sovereignty, and the deliverance of Your People from bondage and slavery, hath been brought out, and brought to passe, by a miraculous way of Divine Providence, beyond and above our reach and comprehension of our understandings, and therefore to be admired, impossible to be expressed.

God hath been pleased to train Your MAJESTY up in the School of affliction, where You have learn'd that excellent lesson of Patience so well, and improved it so much for the good of Your People, that You have all just cause for ever to blesse God for it, and We doubt not but Your Name is Registered in the Records of Heaven, to have a place in the highest Forme, amongst those glorious Martyrs, of whom it is reported, That through Faith, Christ, and patience in their sufferings, they converted their very Tormenters, and conquered those barbarous bloody Tyrants under whom they then suffered; insomuch as they themselves were many times enforced to confesse, and cry out, *Ecce vicisti Galilaus*; they had their (*vicisti*) and that deservedly: But Your MAJESTY must have a treble (*vicisti*) for with the same weapons, Faith and Patience, You have overcome and conquered the hearts and affections of all Your People in three great Nations, the hearts and affections of all that are worthy the Name of good Christians, or reasonable men.

'Tis God, and God alone, to whom be the glory, that hath made your Majesty so great a Conquerour, indeed Your conquest is incomparable, no story can instance the like, or furnish us with an example to parallel it withal. 'Twas a use and custome amongst the *Romans*, when any of their Commanders had done eminent services abroad, at their returns to honour them with triumphs, and riding through their streets, there they received the praises and applauses of the People, with this inscription upon their Laurel Crowns, *Vincenti Dabitur*; But your Majesties victory is of another nature, and as it differs much from theirs in the quality of it, so your triumph must differ as much from theirs in the manner of it. They conquered bodies, but Your Majesty hath conquered souls; they conquered for the honour and good of themselves, but Your Majesty hath conquered for the honour and good of Your People; they conquered with force, but Your Majesty hath conquered with Faith; they conquered with power, but Your Majesty hath conquered with patience; and therefore God himself hath written Your Motto, and inscribed it upon Your Royal Crown, (*Patienti Dabitur*) their triumphs were in narrow streets, but Your Majesties triumph must be in large hearts; their triumphs lasted but for a day, but Your Majesties triumph must last for all Your dayes, and after that, to triumph in heaven to all Eternity.

I have read of a Duke of Burgundy, who was called *Carolus Audax*; the Historian tells us that his father was called *Carolus Bonus*, an Observator hath this note upon it, That goodnesse doth ever produce boldnesse; Sir, You are the true Son of such a good Father, and so long as you serve our good God, He who is goodnesse it self, will give You boldnesse, a Prince of vertue; and the best foyle Your Majesty can use to set out the true lustre of all Your other most eminent and lively graces.

Most Royal Sovereign, I have yet a few words more; and to doubt Your Patience, who in the mirror of true grace, were to commit a crime unpardonable, and fit to be excepted out of that Act of Oblivion which Your Majesty hath so graciously tendered unto Your People, Therefore with an humble confidence I shall presume to acquaint Your Majesty, that I have it further in command to present You at this time with a petition of Right, and humbly upon my bended knees to beg Your Royal Assent thereunto. Sir, It hath already passed two great Houles, Heaven and Earth, and I have *Vox Populi*, and *Vox Dei*, to warrant this bold demand; It is, That your Majesty would be pleased to remove Your Throne of State, and to set it up in the hearts of Your People; and as You are deservedly the King of hearts, there to receive the love of Your People as a Crown of hearts. Sir, This Crown hath three excellent and rare properties, 'Tis a sweet Crown, 'Tis a lasting Crown, and 'Tis a fast Crown; for 'tis a sweet Crown, for 'tis nothing but the incense of prayer; 'tis a lasting Crown, for 'tis set upon Your Royal Head by God, who only hath the power of Hearts, therefore as long as You wear this Crown, it will last; and it is the hearty desires, and most earnest prayer of all Your Loyal, Loving, and Faithfull Subjects, that You may never change that Crown, till You change it for a better, a Crown of Eternal Glory in the Highest Heavens, and the Lord say, Amen.